



Update from States: Iowa's Health Care Reform Initiatives

**SCI National Meeting
Albuquerque, NM
July 30, 2009**



Uninsured Children in Iowa

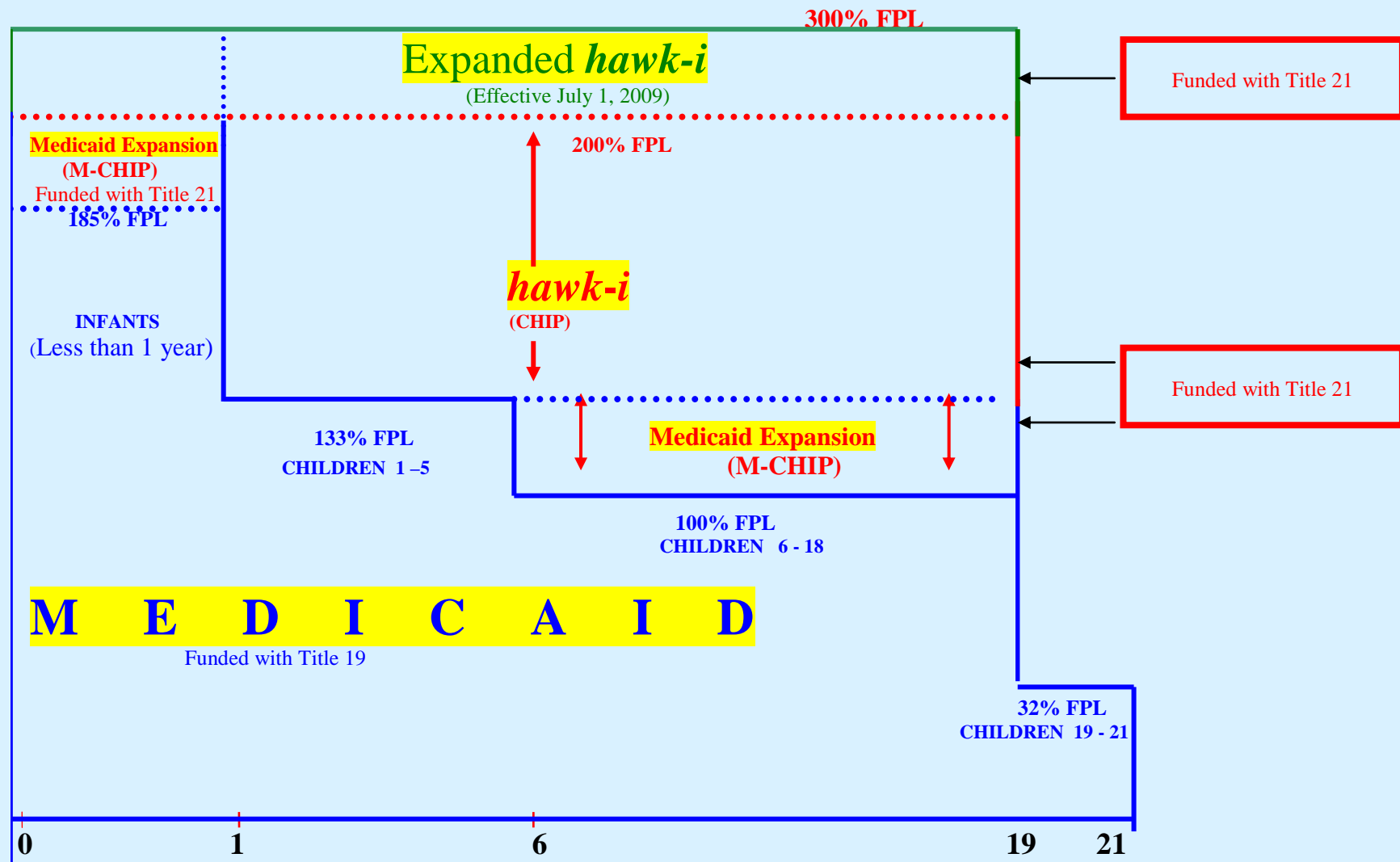
- Midwestern Region – historically low uninsured rates
- Iowa – in top 5 states lowest uninsured rates for children
- 2008 Data: estimated 40,000 uninsured – all income levels
 - 20,000 with income < 200% FPL
 - 10,000 with income between 200% & 300% FPL



Iowa's Commitment

- Governor Chet Culver and the Iowa Legislature share in the goal of covering all uninsured, eligible children
- They support this goal by providing funding for enrollment growth and outreach

Iowa's Health Care Programs for Non-Disabled Children





2008 Legislative Session

➤ Medicaid:

- Implement continuous eligibility for children (7/08)
- Implement Family Opportunity Act (1/09)

➤ CHIP:

- Expand *hawk-i* to 300% FPL effective 7/09 if federal reauthorization allows
- Continue outreach

➤ Appropriated \$4.8M



2008 Legislative Session (cont'd)

- Modify 2008 state income tax form to ask if dependent children have health insurance
- Required DHS to develop options and recommendations on:
 - Employer sponsored premium assistance program
 - Maximizing enrollment & retention of eligible children in Medicaid & *hawk-i*
 - Premium assistance pilot for direct care workers



Maximizing Opportunities for Children Summit (9/08)

- Sponsors: Child & Family Policy Center with Finish Line Grant Funding from the David & Lucille Packard Foundation
- Attendees: National experts, Governor's office, Legislators, legislative staff, providers, advocates, state agencies, insurance & business industry, *hawk-i* Board
- Issued 3 reports to General Assembly

2009 Legislative Session

- \$10.5M appropriated (HF 820 & HF 811). 17 FTES field; 0 FTEs state office.
- SF 389 implements sweeping changes to Medicaid and CHIP:
 - Expands *hawk-i* to 300% FPL (7/09)
 - Increase Medicaid income limit for infants & pregnant women to 300% FPL (7/09)
 - Covers all eligible children in Medicaid & *hawk-i* for whom FFP is available (LPR children) (7/09)
- Note: Legislation effective date is 7/1/09 for all but Presumptive Eligibility which is 1/1/10. Dates indicated on slides are DHS goals.

2009 Legislative Session

(cont'd)

➤ SF 389:

- Requires DHS to apply for CHIPRA Demonstration grants
- Implements presumptive eligibility for children in Medicaid & *hawk-i* (1/10)
- Implements *hawk-i* dental only (1/10)
- Implements premium assistance program under CHIPRA for Medicaid & *hawk-i* (3/10)
- Requires *hawk-i* family cost sharing & graduated premiums to be based on rationally developed sliding fee scale (TBD)



2009 Legislative Session

(cont'd)

➤ SF 389:

- Allow one pay stub as proof of income (5/09)
- Allow averaging of 3 years of income for self-employment (5/09)
- Mail Medicaid annual renewal form 1st day of the month prior to renewal (TBD)
- Translation and interpretation services for Medicaid (7/09) & *hawk-i* (TBD) under CHIPRA



2009 Legislative Session

(cont'd)

➤ SF 389:

- Requires implementation in Medicaid & *hawk-i* CHIPRA performance bonus criteria (TBD):
 - Joint application/forms & same application & renewal process
 - Administrative or paperless verification at renewal
 - Utilize Express Lane Eligibility options, including other public program databases



State Initiatives - Medicaid

Ongoing effort to:

- Simplify forms and policy
- Align policy across programs
- Standardize and improve business processes with an emphasis on technology
- Workload relief (IABC real time, grace period, data brokering, e-case files)



State Initiatives - Medicaid

- Single signature requirement for paper applications (11/08)
- Implement statewide customer service call center (3/09)
- Multi-program on-line application with electronic signature (6/09)



State Initiatives - *hawk-i*

- Accept electronic signatures on application (Fall 2009)
- Implement automated dialer phone messages for missing information, renewals, premium payment reminders (TBD)
- Accept premium payments via ACH, credit card & EFT (TBD)

State Initiatives - *hawk-i*

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- Two-month premium deferral on initial application approvals (1/09)

Example:

- App filed 2/10
- Approved 2/25 (date of decision)
- Coverage begins 3/1
- 1st premium due 5/1



Questions?

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